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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-92 (cancelled)

93. (Previously Presented) A fabric assembly comprising:
a flexible substrate having a top surface;
a plurality of polymeric resin plates having substantially uniform thickness of approximately 5 to 20 mils, the plurality of plates affixed to the top surface of the flexible substrate and arrayed in a pattern such that a plurality of continuous gaps are defined between adjacent plates, wherein the gaps are approximately uniform in width; and
a wire mesh embedded in each plate and completely covered by the top surface by each plate.
94. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 93 wherein the plate thickness is approximately 10 to 12 mils.
95. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 93 wherein the gap width is approximately 7 mils.
96. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 93 wherein the polymeric resin comprises epoxy resin.
97. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 93 wherein the plurality of plates each are shaped as identical equilateral hexagons.
98. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 97 wherein the hexagons are approximately 60 mils in diameter.
99. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 93 wherein the wire mesh is stainless steel.

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100. (currently amended) A non-ballistic fabric assembly comprising:
a first flexible substrate having a first plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates, each having a bottom surface affixed to a top surface of the first flexible substrate;
a second flexible substrate having a second plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates, each having a bottom surface affixed to a top surface of the second flexible substrate; and
a third flexible substrate having a third plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates, each having a bottom surface affixed to a top surface of the third flexible substrate, wherein the flexible substrates are arranged in a stack, and wherein each plurality of plates is arrayed in a pattern such that a plurality of approximately linear gaps are defined between adjacent affixed plates, wherein each substrate is capable of movement relative to the other substrates, wherein each gap is approximately uniform in width in the range of about 5 mils to 20 mils, and wherein each plate has an approximately uniform thickness in the range of 5 to 20 mils.

101. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 100 wherein each plate is an equilateral hexagon.

102. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 101 wherein each equilateral hexagon is made of polymeric resin.

103. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 102 wherein each equilateral hexagon has a diameter in the range of about 60 to 80 mils.

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104. (Previously Presented) A fabric assembly comprising:

- a first flexible substrate having a first plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates affixed to a top surface of the first flexible substrate;
- a second flexible substrate having a second plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates affixed to a top surface of the second flexible substrate; and
- a third flexible substrate having a third plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates affixed to a top surface of the third flexible substrate, wherein the flexible substrates are arranged in a stack, and wherein each plurality of plates is arrayed in a pattern such that a plurality of gaps are defined between adjacent affixed plates, wherein each plate is an equilateral hexagon made of polymeric resin, wherein each plurality of gaps is approximately uniform in width in the range of about 5 mils to 20 mils, and wherein each equilateral hexagon has an approximately uniform thickness in the range of about 5 mils to 20 mils, and wherein one of the pluralities of plates have a larger gap width and plate diameter than the other two pluralities of plates.

105. (Previously Presented) The fabric assembly of claim 104 wherein the other two pluralities of plates each have a plate diameter in a range of 60 to 80 mils.

Claims 106-112 (cancelled)

113. (new) The fabric assembly of claim 104, wherein at least one of the substrates comprises polyester.

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114. (new) The fabric assembly of claim 104, wherein at least one of the substrates comprises nylon.

115. (new) The fabric assembly of claim 104, wherein at least one of the pluralities of plates comprises epoxy resin.

116. (new) A glove comprising the fabric assembly of claim 104.

117. (new) A glove comprising the non-ballistic fabric assembly of claim 100.

118. (new) A fabric assembly comprising:

- a first flexible substrate having a first plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates affixed to a top surface of the first flexible substrate;
- a second flexible substrate having a second plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates affixed to a top surface of the second flexible substrate; and
- a third flexible substrate having a third plurality of continuous, non-overlapping plates affixed to a top surface of the third flexible substrate, wherein the flexible substrates are arranged in a stack, wherein each plurality of plates is arrayed in a pattern such that a plurality of approximately linear gaps are defined between adjacent affixed plates, wherein each substrate is spot bonded to another substrate in at least one position, wherein each gap is approximately uniform in width in the range of about 5 mils to 20 mils, and wherein each plate has an approximately uniform thickness in the range of 5 to 20 mils.

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119. (new) The fabric assembly of claim 118, wherein each plate is an equilateral hexagon.

120. (new) The fabric assembly of claim 119, wherein each equilateral hexagon is made of polymeric resin.

121. (new) The fabric assembly of claim 120, wherein each equilateral hexagon has a diameter in the range of about 60 to 80 mils.